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Urban League demands action on brutality

WASHINGTON—A diverse group of African-American, Asian, Latino and Jewish leaders demanded President Clinton take action against the growing national epidemic of police brutality.

The group of leaders issued their appeal on March 8 at the National Press Club and convened by National Urban League President Hugh Price.

Price cited police killings of Amadou Diallo in New York, Tyisha Miller in Riverside, Calif. and Deon Grimmer in Pittsburgh. "Recurring instances of improper use of deadly force, excessive use of force, racial profiling, abuse of basic civil liberties and routine harassment of

minorities who have done little or nothing wrong are vivid signs of a national epidemic."

Price was flanked by Rev. Jesse Jackson, Rainbow/Push Coalition president; Kwesi Mfume, NAACP president-CEO; Johnnie L. Cochran, Rev. Al Sharpton, National Action Network president; and Wade Henderson, Leadership Conference on Civil Rights executive director.

Also, Raul Yzaguirre, president, National Council of La Raza; Joseph Lowery, chairman, Black Leadership Forum; Abe Foxman, president, Anti-Defamation League; Karen Nussli, director, National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium; and Ira Glasser, director, ACLU American Civil

Liberties Union.

Henderson expressed hope that the group's diversity would persuade Clinton to take action. "Today, many organizations are speaking with one voice in the hope of President Clinton moving to address this growing national crisis," said Henderson.

Just moments before the press conference, Price received a letter from Bill Clinton in which the President called the issue of police abuse and misconduct "critical." Attorney General Janet Reno agreed to meet with civil rights leaders and acknowledged the gravity of the police brutality issue in her weekly press conference. Reno stated that in the past five years, her department has

criminally prosecuted more than 300 officers, resulting in more than 200 convictions, with another 100 investigations ongoing.

During the press conference, Mfume called for withholding federal law enforcement dollars from police departments with an unusually high number of abuse complaints.

Every speaker expressed support for the necessary and valiant work of "good" police officers, but called the life-threatening behavior of rogue cops a national crisis. However, Ira Glasser, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union, said police brutality arises from rage and immoral leadership on the part of mayors and police chiefs, not rogue cops.



Urban League Pres. Hugh Price, right, flanked by civil rights leaders Kwesi Mfume, NAACP, Dr. Joseph Lowery, chairman, Black Leadership Forum; Abe Foxman, pres., Anti-Defamation League; Joe Madison, Washington, D.C. radio talk show host; and others called for action against police brutality.

Youth walk out for justice

By Lucy Sanchez and Jean Pierre

NEW YORK — Thousands of youth walked out of class and onto the streets of New York on March 10 to demand justice for the brutal killing of African immigrant Amadou Diallo. Min. Conrad Muhammad united rap artists, religious and political leaders, gang members, and most importantly, young protesters in front of City Hall calling on Mayor Rudolph Giuliani to take immediate action against police brutality.

Increasing political awareness and social consciousness through hip music and education dominated the days events. "The power lies in our hands," stated hip hop legend DJ Cool Herc. "Hip hop has passed country music; passed rock and roll. We're number one. But you wouldn't know that because we don't have any power because we don't vote."

Other hip hop artists included Africa Bombatta, U-God from Wu Tang Clan, Hakkeim from Channel Live, and James Mfume from 98.7 Kiss F.M. A quiet atmosphere of disappointment rang among the gatherings regarding the absence of prominent rap artists who save millions of records to the youth however, have not come to their aid when their lives are at stake. Nevertheless, the host of other speakers helped them devise a unified spirit and strategy to combat inequalities.

Speaker Shaka Shakur from the Black Power Collective stressed the importance of respect in a successful movement. "Understand that first revolution is the revolution of self," stated Shakur. "If you don't love yourself than you can't love me." In a symbolic truce of gangs Shaka tied red, blue and yellow rags together representing the unification of the Bloods, Crips and the Latin Kings, and threw it into the crowd. Soon after, a member from each of the groups came on stage, embraced each other and vowed to work as a unified people.

Muhammad raised the hands of the gang members and stated, "I am a minister! I would never reject our youth. We must embrace the youth." He called Giuliani to stop looking at his children and start providing jobs for them instead.



The hip hop generation takes their demands to end police brutality to the streets of New York.

Representing the NAACP, Jamal Bryant stated he was bringing 2000 students to New York in July to protest police brutality. "Brothers and sisters we come for a revolution in New York," stated Bryant. "The funeral that happened last week is the last funeral that the NYPD is going to have. This is a movement. This is the new power generation."

One student from City College stated that the mayor and police commissioner continually make excuses for the men in blue. "The police don't respect black or Hispanic life, whatsoever," stated Elyria Lyburg. "They always have this perception that we're criminals and we're not."

City resident Makeya Francis brought her son Le Quan to the rally to explain what happened in the shooting of Diallo. "I feel sad that the cops shot that man," stated the nine-

year-old. "I don't want people to judge me by the color of my skin." When asked if he felt safe anywhere, the bashful, little boy nervously shook his head no as he looked around the street lined with barricades, NYPD officers and finally into the eyes his mother.

The young revolutionaries stated they would march on the ballots and on the streets until justice is served. They called an economic boycott of all corporations who invest in penitentiaries and the government of Giuliani. Muhammad concluded by calling for a residency requirement for police officers and an end to the 48 hour rule.

Bryant concluded by stating "We're not going to stop until every police department answers to a civilian review board that understands that they can't pull us over on the road or harass us whenever they feel like."

Justice Department hearings on profiling needed, activists agree

By Jean H. Pierre
Staff Writer

NEWARK—The state of New Jersey received a lot of honors over the years. The state with the best produce, the finest diners, the best beaches on the eastern seaboard. But sadly New Jersey also has a reputation for deep-seated racism among the police who patrol the highways and byways of the state. Some in law enforcement would say there isn't a problem, but for those who packed First Mount Zion Baptist Church in Newark on March 8, there is.

Local political, religious, and community leaders gathered at the church for a rally against racial profiling in New Jersey. The N.J. Black Issues Convention (NJBIC) sponsored the event to inform residents of the growing problem that is behind the firing of State Police Superintendent Carl Williams for making racist comments about minorities transporting drugs on the highways.

"This is real. It has probably touched you in some fashion or another," said Rev. L. Ronald Durham, Pastor of First Mount Zion Baptist Church. "Somebody you know has been a victim of police misconduct or racism or outright brutality. This is an issue that we must deal with forcefully."

The leaders discussed issues the state must look at regarding the State Police such as:

- Urging the Human Rights Department of the U.S. Justice

Department to call hearings to investigate profiling in the state.

- Urging the government to appoint a new superintendent who is sensitive to needs of all residents and erase racism within the state police.

- Increasing the number of blacks in command positions in the ranks of the state police.

- Urging the government to establish policy and set up programs for state troopers which would develop racial sensitivity and teach ethnic diversity to members of the state police.

Dr. DeLacy Davis of the National Black Police Officers Association grabbed the audience's attention with a training manual used by New Jersey, Maryland and New York state police. It details what to look for when stopping minorities on the region's highways, such as Jamaicans transporting narcotics in foreign automobiles. "This is dastardly and devious within law enforcement," Davis said. "In our fight, folks. The good old boy system must end."

The meeting turned to Gov. Christie Whitman's nomination of Attorney General Peter Verniero to the state Supreme Court, which would disqualify him from reviewing racial profiling complaints if confirmed.

NJBIC chairman Donald Tucker said that would hinder the investigation. "How can he be on the Supreme Court while investigating the state? Something's wrong."

Soaries condemns the culture of racism in NJ

By Carl Chase
Staff Writer

TRENTON—New Jersey Secretary of State DeForest B. Soaries Jr. defended Attorney General Peter Verniero against critics who ask why Verniero didn't do more about the alleged racism and profiling by State Police.

The debate over the State Police is "much too important to become a political football," he said, and urged activists to target the cultural climate that harbors racism and not individuals.

"We must change a culture that allows problems to ferment. This is exactly what the governor and attorney general are doing."

His remarks to a March 11 press conference could help to quell the resistance of black Latino and Democratic leaders who oppose confirmation of Verniero to the state Supreme Court until what the answers are clear. Whitman seeks a quick confirmation of Verniero.

He has been proactive, and, if anything, should have an early hearing on his nomination to the Supreme Court so that the public can hear exactly what he has done since he took office.

Verniero spearheaded the

appointment of New Jersey's first black Supreme Court justice, named the first Hispanic director of gaming and first black director of elections, among other work on police-community relations.

Soaries downplayed 1997 statistics that showed three of every four motorists arrested on the Turnpike were black or Hispanic. "When you're dealing with cultural issues, and institutional culture, you've got to factor in non-empirical data," he said. "We're not dealing with a conspiracy. We're dealing with having inherited a racial suspicion and racial gaps that play themselves out in the form of perspectives," he added.

"Our Troopers are some of the most professional and admirable men and women in America. And, as a black man and law-abiding citizen, I can tell you that there are legitimate concerns regarding racial profiling."

New Jersey Black Ministers Council Executive Director Rev. Reginald Jackson said after speaking with Soaries that he agreed with Soaries' ideas. "Except we don't want the legitimacy on the attorney general to go forward until the attorney general's review team completed the investigation."

He said he could even go along with an early hearing as long as the review team has all the information, and has made a report.

Remembering the battle for education

By Lucy Sanchez

NEWARK — About thirty years ago at the height of the Civil Rights Movement outrage exploded in towns throughout the state of New Jersey demanding equal rights. One of the products that developed out of this fury was the Equal Opportunity Program endorsed by Thomas H. Kean who granted economically disadvantaged families a chance to pursue a higher education. Funds as well as a mentoring program were designed by state colleges to assist youth on their journey to college.

"The 1960's brought into the public sphere a social movement; a massive pour of discontent in the United States" stated Anthony Tillman, Pres. of the New Jersey Educational Opportunity Fund Association. "Social justice erupted because the people were not happy with the lack of access to educational opportunities. They were not happy with the increasing gap between the rich and the poor."

Kean implemented the program as a response to the summer riots in Newark and the massive movements around the country. He drafted legislation that would allow poor students access to an education and hence, a future.

The 30th Anniversary Symposium entitled "A Retrospective Honoring our Past and Embracing our Future" was recently held at Rutgers College-Newark. As vivid images of the riots were displayed many in the audience were moved by the grim fashions of the soldiers and tanks that infiltrated the streets of their town and the lives sacrificed while fighting for human rights. However, these images were soon soothed as successful EOF alumni shared the symposium with stories of victory and inspiration that brought tears to many eyes.

"EOF is a movement, that has been able to produce incredible individuals who have come a long way," stated Maria Velez-Rodriguez-DeSoto, "people who have really become champions and celebrities in their own ways."

The producer of the longest running minority public broadcasting television series, "Images/Imagines," and EOF alumni Will Sanchez recalled growing up in 'n' la barrio and the vital role of college in his life. Sanchez stated the way to destroy racism is by "all of us getting a good education."

HUD asst. secretary Cardell Cooper encouraged the 'old warriors' to



Paul Robeson
Campus Center

HUD Assistant Secretary Cardell Cooper and Drew University President Tom Kean accept awards from Anthony Tillman, president of the EOF.

recharge their batteries because racism is still alive. "One of the telling signs of all of this is ignorance. Ignorant people do ignorant things. People are screaming for an education," stated HUD.

Kean concluded by requesting an additional \$10 million to go towards what he called the "most successful program of its kind in the country."

The education opportunity program provides over 13,000 students a year a chance for a brighter future.

Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17

NEW YORK — The Studio Museum in Harlem presents a discussion and exhibit on the works of Richard Powell beginning at 6:30 p.m. (212) 664-4500.

PLAINFIELD — Plainfield Public Library will hold a public poetry reading at the library's conference room beginning at 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 18

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) will feature today's hottest literary voices during *Word Power: El Pódor De La Palabra*, a reading of spanish poets beginning at 7 p.m. 1-888-GO-NJPAC.

NEWARK — The Newark Literacy Campaign is seeking volunteers to become reading partners for adults and children at Newark Public Library beginning at 6 p.m. (973) 623-4001.

FRIDAY, MARCH 19

CALDWELL — Caldwell College presents pianist Jonke Polk and soprano singer Laura Greenwald beginning at 8 p.m. (973) 618-3000.

BROOKLYN, NY — State Senator Vroomanville (D-Brooklyn) will celebrate the accomplishments of twelve women at a significant "Dinner reception at Diner Auditorium on the campus of Polytechnic University beginning at 6 p.m. (718) 643-6140.

NEWARK — Ujima Mission to Africa presents the Third Annual African Heritage Awards Banquet at The Mediterranean Manor beginning at 6:30 p.m. (973) 746-3078.

PLAINFIELD — The Plainfield Senior Citizens Center will hold a birthday for seniors born on the month of March beginning at 1:30 p.m. (908) 753-3056.

SATURDAY, MARCH 20

ELIZABETH — The City of Elizabeth Department of Recreation presents the Fox Annual Easter Egg Hunt at Carnerel Park beginning at 9:30 a.m. (908) 820-4220.

NEWARK — The Newark Arts Council presents a community forum and workshop on arts in Newark at University of Medicine & Dentistry beginning at 12 p.m. (973) 643-1352.

NEWARK — The Newark Public Library presents its *Hoaray for Children* series featuring the film *Am* in Wonderland beginning at 2

p.m. (973) 733-5643.

SUNDAY, MARCH 21

NEW BRUNSWICK — The New Jersey State Theater presents the production of the classic fable *The Nightingale*. Call (909) 682-7287 for time of event.

MONDAY, MARCH 22

JERSEY CITY — New Jersey City University will hold its Second Annual Student Research Forum at the school's Hephurn Hall beginning at 10 a.m. (201) 200-3426.

COLTS NECK — Monmouth County Park System will offer nature walks ages 4-5 a close look at nature and wildlife at the Dorbrook Activity Center beginning at 10:30 a.m. (732) 219-9484.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24

WAYNE — William Paterson University presents an exhibit of computer designs and images at the Ben Shan Galleries located on the campus of William Paterson University beginning at 4 p.m. (973) 720-2971.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27

CHESTER — Alsade Farms presents an Easter egg hunt for families beginning at 9 a.m. (908) 879-7159.

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents jazz artist Carrie Jackson at the Theater Square Grill located inside the NJPAC beginning at 8:30 p.m. 1-888-GO-NJPAC.

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents *Labor of Love: The Life of Sarah Vaughn*, a tribute concert on the legendary jazz singer beginning at 8 p.m. 1-888-GO-NJPAC.

TUESDAY, MARCH 30

JERSEY CITY — New Jersey City University (NJCU) will hold a day long conference on Affirmative Action at the Student Union Building beginning at 8:15 a.m. (201) 200-3426.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31

NEWARK — The Organizing for Community Development will hold its spring cycle of the "Ozarscott School of Grantwriting." This program will train individuals to identify funding opportunities preparing grant proposals. The program will take place at Clear View Baptist Church, Call (732) 932-3558 for time.

Pre-schoolers celebrate Black History Month at local hospital



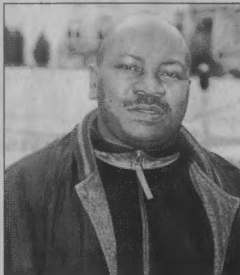
Residents and patients of Runnels Specialized Hospital of Union County were entertained recently at a celebration of Black History Month, by a group of children from the Second Street Youth Center, Plainfield Head Start Program. The resolution was presented to the group by Union County Freeholders Mary Ruotolo and Chester Holmes(both holding resolution), designating February as Black History Month in the County. At far left is Pat Scott of Union, Dir. of the Activities Therapy Dept., and next to her is Phyllis Greer, Dir. of the Center.

Successfully climbing Walt Disney's corporate ladder



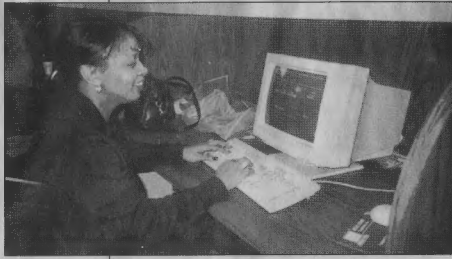
Marsha Reed has been promoted to vice president and will continue as corporate secretary of The Walt Disney Co. Reed, 41, is responsible for coordinating the meeting of the Board of Directors, including their committee meetings, and handling all corporate records. She also provides advice on corporate governance issues, plans the annual meeting of shareholders and serves as a registered agent for the company.

Faculty member starts charter school



John Kemakolam, an adjunct faculty member at Bloomfield College and president of the Our Family Circle Foundation, recently founded The Jack Wever Academy for Health Sciences and Technologies in Newark, one of the 15 new charter schools approved by Gov. Christie Whitman.

Valley National Bank employee supports radiothon for children



Valley National Bank Newark branch employee Denise Grubbs, a resident of Newark, was among the 115 Valley volunteers who processed credit card and cash pledges during the recent WFAN Radiothon to Benefit Tomorrow's Children's Fund(cancer research for children), the C.J. Foundation for SIDS - Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, and the Imus Ranch, a fresh air camp in New Mexico for children and families under the care of Tomorrow's Children's Fund and SIDS. Spearheaded by WFAN radio personality Don Imus, the radiothon this year raised over \$2.5 million - most of it through credit card pledges processed during the two-day, 36 hour radiothon by the Valley employees.

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Nation Briefs

NAACP INTENSIFIES ANNEXXATION EFFORTS DESPITE RESIGNATION OF MAYOR

TRENTON, N.C. (AP) — A group of citizens in Jones County town called off a boycott of local businesses as the town's council promised to begin the process of annexing black neighborhoods.

Council members Odell Lewis and Edward Eubanks introduced a motion to start the process of voluntary annexation in Haiti, Monticello and Spicy-Quinn Lands, three primarily black neighborhoods just outside Trenton's borders.

The council's motion came after former Mayor Joffrey Leggett resigned after he made racist remarks in a newspaper. The comments have created a huge racial rift in the community of about 215 and led to an economic boycott of white-owned businesses by black residents in and around the town.

The NAACP became involved in the annexation fight after Leggett told a reporter from The Winston Free Press that he considered blacks unfit to serve in town government.

"They are not leaders. A black man would rather work for a white person," Leggett said.

Under state law, voluntary annexation requires that every resident of the areas sign a petition stating they want to become part of the town.

40 HAITIANS PRESUMED DEAD IN FLORIDA BOAT SINKING

MIAMI (AP) — The Coast Guard has called off its search Sunday for up to 40 Haitians who apparently drowned while trying to sneak into the country in what is described as the deadliest smuggling attempt ever off the South Florida coast.

"At this point they're presumed dead," Lt. John Pierce said. "We searched right up until midnight without results."

Two boats loaded with refugees sank Saturday in the early morning hours. Survivors said 43 people — 16 men and two women were on one boat and 20 men and five women were on the second boat. Crew members on a passing freighter reported hearing screams from the water about 30 miles east of West Palm Beach. Rescuers only found three survivors.

One of the survivors, Louis Pierre, was in good condition at Good Samaritan Medical Center in West Palm Beach. Pierre told the Associated Press he was in the water 17 hours before he was rescued.

Pierre, 42, said he was hoping for political asylum, and denied that the trip was organized by smugglers.

The two other survivors were treated at hospitals and released to U.S. immigration officials.

NAACP TO CELEBRATE "DAY OF NON-VIOLENCE"

BALTIMORE (AP) — NAACP President Kweisi Mfume announced that his organization would celebrate a "National Day of Non-Violence" on April 4.

Programs are planned for several cities, including Dallas, Memphis, Tampa and Oakland, Calif.

"We want to put forward an agenda today," he said. "We're tired of going to teen-age funerals. We're tired of people thinking that Baltimore can't do better."

Mfume spoke at a student gathering at Walbrook High, a high school with a predominantly black student population. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is based in Baltimore.

"Isn't it ironic that 90 years ago, when the NAACP was founded, we were running from the men in the white hoods — and now, 90 years later, we're running from the boys in the 'hood'?" Mfume said.

Then, referring to recent shooting massacres by white high school students in Oregon and Arkansas, he said violence "is not a black problem, it is an American problem."

Rev. Jamel Bryant, national director of the NAACP's Youth and College Division, said the date was chosen to coincide with both Easter Sunday and the anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination.

Civil rights panel to probe NYPD

NEW YORK (AP) — As the local debate over police treatment of minorities thickens, a federal fact-finding agency is set to investigate New York City's police practices.

The Civil Rights Commission, which was established by the Civil Rights Act of 1957, has voted to study the New York Police Department in the wake of the February shooting death of Amadou Diallo, an unarmed West African immigrant who was fired on 41 times by police.

Among those expected to be asked to testify at the May public hearing are Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and Police Commissioner Howard Safir, commission chairwoman Mary Frances Berry told The New York Times in a telephone interview.

"We do have subpoena power and if we need to subpoena documents and

persons we will," said Berry. However, she added her expectation that city officials would be eager to take part in the study.

"We're looking at how the police department functions, whether they are operating according to standard operating procedures, what problems and complaints have been made about the agency and whether they have been resolved," she said.

Colleen Roche, a spokeswoman for the mayor, said city officials would help with the investigation.

"This administration has worked very cooperatively with the U.S. Civil Rights Commission in the past and we look forward to continuing that relationship," said Ms. Roche.

The eight-member Washington-based commission produces reports for the president, Congress and other federal

agencies on how federal, state and local government agencies treat individual and group civil rights.

"We're a fact-finding agency, not a prosecuting agency," said Berry. "We're not prosecuting anybody or looking at any particular incident."

Recent commission investigations include police practices in Los Angeles following the 1991 Rodney King beating. That report is due out in April.

President Clinton honors the NAACP on its 90th anniversary



President Clinton congratulates Kweisi Mfume (left) and Julian Bond on the organization's 90th year.

\$36 million settlement for four wrongly convicted of murder

By Evelyn Giarard

CHICAGO (AP) — Four black men wrongfully convicted of murdering a couple nearly two decades ago have won \$36 million from the county in what their lawyers say is the biggest settlement ever reached in a civil rights lawsuit over police misconduct.

The four had sued Cook County, claiming the sheriff's officers who investigated the 1978 case were racists who hid evidence that would have helped the defense while ignoring leads pointing to the real killers.

"No amount of money can be satisfactory for what has been done to us," said one of the men wrongly sent to death row, Dennis Williams.

"If someone asked me 18 years ago, 'Can I buy your life for \$100 million or can I borrow your life for \$100 million for 18 years?' I would have said hell no."

The four were freed from prison in

1996 and pardoned after a group of student journalists at Northwestern University proved a state witness had lied. Three other men were later convicted of killing the couple.

Attorney Mark Ter Molen, who represents one in the group now known as the Ford Heights Four, said he would petition the county's chief criminal courts judge for a special prosecutor to investigate the case.

"The amount of the settlement reflects the gravity of the misconduct that occurred in this case," Ter Molen said. "We believe the evidence we found warrants review by a special prosecutor."

The settlement was approved Friday during a meeting with Circuit Court Judge William Maddux.

Williams, Kenny Adams, Vernell Jernison and Willie Raines were in their 20s when they were convicted of the 1978 gang rape and double murder of a

south suburban couple, Carol Schmal and Lawrence Lionberg. The two were abducted from a gas station. Their bodies were found in the Chicago suburb of Ford Heights.

Williams and Jernison went to death row; Raines and Adams were sentenced to life in prison.

"It's something that never leaves you," said Adams, referring to his time in the penitentiary. "You think about it every day. You can never feel comfortable again."

After months of discussions about how to wrap-up the embarrassing case, the Cook County Board decided to authorize the settlement.

In all, 11 men have been released from death row in Illinois since capital punishment was restored, including one man who was freed last month after Northwestern professor David Protess and some of his students found evidence of his innocence.

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Hip hop and ya don't stop... or did you?

Calling all hip hop artists... Attention! Attention! This is your last call. Hip hop is real. This genre is no longer being harassed by a police officer, or better yet, to those of you who say you appreciate your fans. When you look into the faces of your audience you should not have to be asked to support them when it comes to confronting police brutality and racial profiling. But if that's what you're waiting for, then here it is.

Even though nobody asked you about advertising Thomas Hilfinger or Gucci, or the phat cars you ride or sensationalizing shoot outs or exploiting women we will ask you to speak on behalf of your own civil rights and protecting your own life.

Whether you want to acknowledge your role in it or not, this national crisis has everything to do with you. Do you ride down the turnpike or highway of America? Have you ever been harassed by an officer? Do you have any children? Is your community infiltrated with drugs and crime? Is the government investing more money in your child's incarceration instead of their education? Are there political prisoners sitting in prison or death row because they were fighting for your rights? If you answered yes to any of these questions and you're waiting for someone to ask you to come forward then you are failing your youth miserably.

Hip hop, spirituals, rhythm and blues, spoken word, jazz and even rock and roll have surfaced from the outcry of a people who are sharing their personal experiences with the world. They are about a history and education of a people.

Understand the power you have at your hands. Understand the role you may have on all these young minds who at your disposal. The hip hop generation has adopted rap artists as leaders, and some of you are not meeting their standards. The worse action any human being can take is no action at all. By ignoring this issue you are ignoring the strength of music to heal, to empower a generation that is very politically conscious and just waiting for guidance. So take of your next time you have an opportunity to attend a forum, a rally, a protest, a boycott, a march, a political or educational forum then use your fame, money and most of all influence to address the community and others who are coming to the forum and turn your backs on the youth. You may be the only one who is listening to. So make sure when they call for you that you answer.

'Millions for Munia'

Dr. Manning Marable

Throughout history, there are individuals who have become symbols for the struggles of humanity against oppression. In African American history, one thinks immediately of Paul Robeson, whose passport was taken away in the U.S. government, and the "unpopular" in his own country. In the 1970s, Angela Y. Davis and George Jackson were political prisoners when the system sought to destroy them. In South Africa, Nelson Mandela was imprisoned by the apartheid regime for nearly three decades, but from his prison cell he became the moral conscience of the entire world.

That same mantle of martyrdom and courage now belongs to Munia Abu-Jamal. Jamal's case is now known throughout the world. Born in 1954, Jamal became a political activist as a teenager, when he became a founding member of the Black Panther Party. In the 1970s, Jamal emerged as a prominent Black nationalist and defender of the rights of local white authorities. His brilliant political essays and investigative report created enemies inside the police force and local government, and he lost his job. To make ends meet, Jamal started to work part-time at night as a cabdriver.

After imprisoned on December 9, 1981, Jamal was shot and viciously beaten by the Philadelphia police. He was charged with the murder of a police officer named Daniel Fagan, whose body was found at the scene. Munia Abu-Jamal was promptly charged with murder, was found guilty and was sentenced to death.

It was only after Jamal was convicted that substantial evidence surfaced indicating gross violations of procedural and police practices. Several so-called eye witnesses to the crime were coached and coerced by the police. Throughout the U.S. and the world, activists and scholars rallied on Munia's behalf, demanding a new trial. Despite strong evidence of Jamal's innocence, the U.S. Supreme Court refused to review his case, and Pennsylvania's Republican Governor Tom Ridge signed his death warrant on July 2, 1995. Massive protest marches and demonstrations in cities across Pennsylvania's Republican Governor Tom Ridge signed his death warrant on July 2, 1995. Massive protest marches and demonstrations in cities across Pennsylvania's Republican Governor Tom Ridge signed his death warrant on July 2, 1995. Massive protest marches and demonstrations in cities across Pennsylvania's Republican Governor Tom Ridge signed his death warrant on July 2, 1995.

The Munia Abu-Jamal case highlights the racial and arbitrary nature of the death penalty, especially when applied to African Americans. There are currently more than three thousand people on death row, the largest number

African issues still too troubling for America's policy makers

By Asika Muhammad

If President Bill Clinton's trip to Africa is anything but a mere show moment for him, then he showed his commitment for his first host on the continent — Ghana's President Jerry Rawlings. By smiling and making pleasant through most of their public exchanges during an official State Visit in February.

At the first event in the legendary Black Star Square, Clinton spoke to upwards of half a million people, the largest audience ever for him. The decision to begin his trip to the land of Kwame Nkrumah, where our own Dr. W.E.B. DuBois is buried, was no accident.

It "allowed us to highlight for all Americans the progress Africa has made and the promise of our future together," Clinton said during an exchange of thoughts with Rawlings.

But the most important thing Americans should learn about Africa, Clinton said earlier at a joint press conference, is that "This is not simply a continent with problems, it's a continent with promise."

For his part, President Rawlings appealed to the U.S. to assist West African countries to solve the conflicts rocking some parts of the sub-region.

It is rather unfortunate that the stereotypes of Africa, according to Clinton, of full of conflict, lack of democracy, etc., continues to dominate the international media. And yet there are many people in Africa who are not living on their continent, "Pres. Rawlings said.

One of the most positive developments may be the "Ri-fact." That term what he said at KILH in Los Angeles, the station owned by entertainer Steve Wonder say every time they play a song by their "boss." Clinton said to any of 30 or more substances found on the surface of red blood cells. Bob Marley called it "One Drop" in one of his songs. The Neville Brothers sing about "My Blood down there."

In this case it is the move by the Ghanaian parliament to extend dual citizenship to black Americans and their descendants of African slaves. "If Ghana does this, it certainly won't hurt in trying to get more Americans interested in Ghana, in going to Ghana and coming to Ghana's future," Clinton said in response to a question from a reporter.

Ghana's parliament will soon vote on a bill to grant dual citizenship to black Americans as a gesture of good will after the country's past role as a slavery port.

New Yorkers' freedom of expression and protection

By Carolyn L. Bennett

The New York police department will go with enough fire power two weeks ago in the Bronx to kill a small army. But there was no army on the ground. The police were not armed. But that didn't stop the men in blue, operating under the guise of preserving New York's "tranquillity" to beat down and kill a group of New Yorkers. And the incident reminds ominously of lost liberty and lost justice for all.

It seems to be an echo blaring from police departments across the nation. You want safety in New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Los Angeles, New Orleans, etc. We can give you that, but you've got to pay for it. And the price we want is your freedom: your freedom to be different, your freedom to be a person, your freedom to be a vendor's stand on the street corner.

What would have happened to a newspaperman 50 years ago having the morning news? Or to a Girl Scout cookie seller for a year later passing out freshly delivered cookies?

As well as having the right to stand before. And killing with 41 shots fired by police at Amadou Diallo sounds ominously familiar.

As England's House of Commons' parliamentarians challenged such unchecked, out-of-control authority. The parliamentarians went up against King Charles II and his army. They lost their own rights and privileges as a Parliament independent of the crown. They fought a civil war in England and King Charles I lost his life. Parliament prevailed, but it took no more than a sovereign representing the upper classes: the nobility, the gentry, merchants and artisans.

I wonder how Mr. Diallo would have fared in 17th century England. Probably no worse than he is today under New York's sovereign Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and the NYPD.

An English political philosopher wrote at that time that the king who loved the State. He did in fact prefer it over human beings for whom he had little respect. He thought the government, whether the king or parliament, should do whatever was necessary to keep humans in line. Thomas Hobbes was his name.

He is reported as saying that human beings, in their natural state, are selfishly individualistic animals who are at constant war with one another. And they live lives which are "nasty, brutish and short." By this

"My continent is the mother not of all continents, but humanity today," Rawlings said. "There is no reason why Africa should not be the first to be the right to enjoy the same citizenship I enjoy as an African."

But when monetary subjects came up, Clinton said he was not interested in their appeals. The two presidents held long hours of talks at the White House, and both said that talks were productive.

On debt relief, a sensitive issue that is being raised more and more by blacks on both sides of the Atlantic, the U.S. president said this would not be effective if it is not backed by long-term economic plans as being pursued by countries such as Ghana.

"I do not believe debt relief is the total answer," Clinton said. "Debt relief should be supported by good economic policies. It is essential for some countries and it is useful that kind of these countries can really assist significant growth without debt relief. But I do not believe debt relief alone will bring them out of poverty. I'm for more debt relief, but it is essential for some countries, but it is not enough. So we need debt relief plus trade and investment, plus aid, plus good economic policies within the country to maximize African growth."

The price Rawlings may have paid for Clinton's positive outlook towards Africa, Clinton said, according to Rawlings, was the diplomatic negotiations leading up to the State Visit, who remained anonymous, was the removal of the names of regions for slavery from all the discussions.

The U.S. State Department would never admit to resorting to strong-arm tactics to shut the gates of Africa to one issue or another of the negotiating table, but in reality it is done all the time, and not just by this country.

One of the important topics of the bilateral U.S.-Ghana talks was security, conflict resolution. First Liberia, and now Sierra Leone in West Africa have been decimated in blood, not to mention conflicts in Rwanda and Congo in East Africa, Angola in Southern Africa, and in Ethiopia and Eritrea and in Sudan in Northeast Africa.

But if African countries can ever release themselves from having to spend so much of their resources on the most unproductive of all human activities — war — their maybe they can register some internal progress and shift the agenda back to retooling the great divide with America, over reparations to the victims of slavery.

By John Meredith

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Remembering a significant event in South African history

By Dr. Conrad W. Worrill

One of the tragedies of post apartheid South Africa is that too much is being forgotten of the numerous atrocities that occurred during the vicious era of the white supremacist regime.

African people should never forget history! It is in this connection that the National Black United Front will commemorate the March 21, 1960 Sharpeville Massacre through public discussions and forums.

African Liberation Movement forces, around the world, commemorate the Sharpeville Massacre. This will be the 39th anniversary of this tragic event in South African history.

Just as the African American Community in this country demonstrated its solidarity with the African people in the south during the 1950's and 1960's to protest racist segregation laws, African people in the Sharpeville area of South Africa, in 1960, were attempting to demonstrate against the white supremacist Pass Laws System. The Pass Laws System in South Africa is a method the South African Government uses to control the movement of black people to "officially" check on the whereabouts of black people at all times. Black people had to carry a document called a pass, which had to be stamped, before they are allowed any movement in the country.

On December 10, 1959, the Pan African Congress held a black conference in Orlando, Johannesburg, "resolved to embark upon a campaign directed against the Pass Laws, which subject the African people to humiliation of constant arrest." The African American Community is familiar with police harassment and brutality. The Pass Laws System in South Africa is a police unit authorized in arresting people at will.

During the week of March 20, 1960, the African Congress requested permission to hold a public meeting on Sunday. The request was refused by South African Government officials. The African Congress decided to hold the Pass Book Campaign on March 21, by holding a rally and demonstration to protest these vicious laws. Unable to hold a public meeting, members of the

PAC called their members to meet at the Sharpeville Tennis Club grounds (Sharpeville is the African location Vereeniging).

According to eyewitness accounts, at about 1:00 a.m. on March 21, "a great number of people had assembled at the tennis court where they were addressed on the objects of the campaign and had expressed their own decision to surrender peacefully to the police for arrest that day." Further eyewitness accounts explain that, "1-350 white Riot Squad with two security staff cars arrived at the scene of the meeting. Without endeavoring to anybody what the gathering was about, the police started shooting from their vehicles into the air to frighten and disperse the crowd."

Later that morning, "a great number of armed white police invaded the location and while they were ostensibly patrolling the streets, intimidating people and making attempts of carrying out retaliation so that they might be afforded an excuse to carry out their objective of snuffing by brutal force the peaceful demonstration."

Leaders of the Pan African Congress continued their planned march to the police station in accordance with the African people's intentions of surrender themselves for arrest. Hundreds of people followed the leaders singing the South African Black National Anthem.

After Mangosile Robert Sobukwe, the first National President of PAC, and his aides had been arrested, thousands of unarmed Africans gathered at the police station in Sharpeville. The white police fired on the defenseless men, women and children. Sixty Africans were killed on the spot and 178 were wounded. More than 80 percent of those who were shot in the back as they fled. It is because of this inhuman act of violence that we must commemorate the Sharpeville Massacre.

It is important that we continue to analyze and discuss historical events that help us to understand the role of history in the liberation of African people. African people must never forget history! Remember the Sharpeville Massacre!

Dr. Conrad W. Worrill is a professor of African American Studies at the University of South Carolina.

Another benefit to setting up private retirement accounts instead of paying Social Security taxes is that workers could pay less now and still enjoy a financial security retirement when they reach retirement age.

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BUSINESS CALENDAR

THURSDAY, MARCH 18

JERSEY CITY — New Jersey City University (NJCU) will hold a free lecture on financing college education at NJCU's Women's Center beginning at 1 p.m. (201) 201-3426.

BRIDGEWATER — The Somerset County Chamber of Commerce will hold a seminar on job hiring at the Arden Glen Conference Center beginning at 8 a.m. (908) 275-1552.

LINCROFT — The Monmouth County Park System will hold a seminar on job and interviewing skills at Thompson Park. Seminar beginning at 7:30 p.m. (732) 942-4000.

PRINCETON — The New Jersey Technology Council (NJTC) will hold a seminar on stock options and dividend planning in 1999. Call (609) 452-1010 for time and location.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24

ISLEIGH — The New Jersey Expo presents a seminar on strategies for the deregulation of the power companies in New Jersey for the 21st Century at the Sheraton Woodbridge Hotel beginning at 7:30 p.m. (908) 878-0377.

BURLINGTON — The Entrepreneurial Training Institute will hold a multiple purpose workshop at the Burlington County High-Tech Incubator. Call (609) 633-7751 for time.

NEW YORK — The Port Authority of New York & New Jersey Regional Alliance for Small Contractors will offer intermediate level contractor training on "6E Checkbooks at the WTC (World Trade Center) Business Resource Center beginning at 9 a.m. (212) 435-6502.

THURSDAY, MARCH 25

ELIZABETH — Continental Airlines Inc. presents a business opportunities open house at the Wynton Hotel. Beginning at 8 a.m. (973) 273-1074.

UNION — The Union County Economic Development Corporation will offer computer training programs on doing business through electronic commerce beginning at 10 a.m. Call (973) 827-1166 for location information.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27

MORRISTOWN — The Refrigeration Service Engineers Society presents a seminar on the service industry in New Jersey at AlliedSignal Corporation Headquarters beginning at 9 a.m. (973) 378-2625.

NEW BRUNSWICK — The New Jersey State Fair at the State Theater beginning at 10 a.m. (732) 993-0189.

Tech companies say no to blacks and Latinos

By John William Templeton

A new advertising campaign for Apple Computer features a photograph of Jackie Robinson crossing home plate and receiving a hand shake from a white teammate.

Unfortunately, the symbolism of the ad is lost on a high-technology industry that has no intention of welcoming people of color into its highly-paid ranks.

Of the 1454 firms in California's Silicon Valley that are registered by an executive order to complete EEO-1 forms to be eligible for federal contracts, only 175 do so.

Out of 45 million black and His-

panic managers and professionals nationally, those 175 firms seem able to find only about 10,000 "help" of their availability in the local work force.

If those firms reflected the population around them, with an average salary of \$60,000, plus benefits like stock options, the digital divide is costing our communities more than \$1 billion in lost wages alone.

The issue is linked to another problem: Corporate America's "no urban dictators" in the computer industry is one of the largest consumer advertisers in the country. And as a group, it practices the most stringent "no

urban dictators" policy of any industry.

That means it does not advertise in computers, modems or Internet service on billboards, radio or in newspapers serving African-American and Latino communities, nor does it advertise the availability of jobs in those neighborhoods.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) recently released a report on "no urban dictators" that describes the impact on the viability of black-owned broadcasting due to these revenue reductions. The FCC and the departments of Commerce and Defense also have a lot to say about the development of Silicon Valley, an industry built largely with federal research dollars.

Now, the Department of Energy, NASA and Defense's Advanced Research Projects Agency are funding Internet, a high-speed network on fiber optic cables with 141 universities,

which will not be accessible through the regular Internet. Only one black institution—Florida A&M University—is among those selected.

These are the kinds of systematic racism that is being funded with our tax dollars. If anyone needs high-speed connections to the Internet, it is historically black colleges and universities, which have been left out of the largest of federal research dollars.

Additionally, it would be a real advantage to the 9,000 grade schools nationally that are 50 percent or more black to be connected into this kind of network. Particularly since these schools are the focus of the "accountability" measures that governors and the Clinton Administration are cooking up.

We know that the lack of performance by our students can be partly attributed to their lack of access to resources such as libraries and distance

learning. As long as the government subsidizes these resources for the wealthy and cuts off public assistance to the poor, the "digital divide" will be the engine that keeps the jails and prisons filled.

President Clinton will have to use his authority to issue an executive order that would prohibit federal contractors from engaging in practices like no urban dictators and maintaining the digital divide. The telecommunications spectrum belongs to all of us and so should the information superhighway. However, it is being given away before many of us even know of its existence.

John William Templeton is executive editor of *Grav*, the African-American, African and Caribbean business daily at <http://www.Blackbusiness.com>. Contact him at askjohn@Blackbusiness.com.

CPAs' six steps help safeguard your taxes

ROSELAND—You've finished scavenging your home for lost receipts, reviewed seemingly every aspect of your personal life to a tax advisor who was relentlessly dedicated to uncovering tax deductions and defended yourself to your family and others for being well a little less than organized when it comes to tax records. You think the hard part is over, but you shouldn't breathe a sign of relief just yet.

The New Jersey State of Certified Public Accountants advises that you take six more small steps to make sure you have covered all the bases.

1. Make sure you (and your spouse if you filed jointly) signed the return. An unsigned return is considered not filed, and therefore makes you susceptible to late-filing penalties.

2. Get your tax preparer's signature. If you pay someone to prepare your return, he or she must sign and include his/her Social Security number on the return. Failure to do so may subject the preparer to a penalty.

3. Make sure your return address is correct. If the IRS assesses you additional taxes and you don't check you, you'll still be financially responsible.

4. Attach all required documents. Be sure that all W-2, 1099, and other required forms that verify your income are securely attached to your tax return.

5. Pay any tax that you owe. If any taxes are due, make your check out to your Social Security number, form number, and the tax year on the check. And remember, even if you file for an extension, if you don't pay your taxes by the original due date, you'll be hit with penalties and interest charges.

6. Get your return to the IRS on time. This sounds simple, but keep in mind the IRS's rules. If your return is late, it must be postmarked by April 15, 1999 or be considered timely filed.

Last-minute filers may use specified services from DHL, Airborne, Federal Express and UPS, as well as the U.S. Postal Service.

Banks miss deadline for Y2K

PALM BEACH GARDENS, FL—Among banks and S&Ls responding to a Weiss Y2K readiness survey mailed December 30, 1998, a surprisingly large percentage—32 percent—admit that they missed a critical Y2K deadline.

These institutions report that they did not complete remediation and testing of internal mission-critical systems by December of last year. Furthermore, 20 percent do not anticipate completion until March. This implies a failure to comply with the federal requirement that "testing of internal mission-critical systems should be substantially complete" by Dec. 31, 1998.

This finding directly contradicts recent assurances from banking regu-

lates that only 4 percent of banking institutions have been rated "unsatisfactory" or "needs improvement."

"I don't understand how the authorities can give 'satisfactory' Y2K compliance ratings to institutions that have apparently missed a critical compliance deadline," commented Martin Weiss, Ph.D., chairman of Weiss Ratings, Inc. "In the long run, I feel this can only damage their credibility and create the conditions for the very consumer panic everyone wants to avoid."

Weiss urges consumers to write their Congressmen to require full and honest disclosure from regulators regarding the current Y2K status of financial institutions—not only for banks and S&Ls, but also for insurers and credit unions.

On Business



Dale Caldwell

How to choose your company

Choosing a company to work for is a daunting task, no matter what your race or background.

However, there are three things that African Americans should do in addition to considering the standard job requirements (such as salary, geographic location and other concerns) before joining a company. These are:

1. Decide what your long-term goals are and how your career with this company will help you achieve these goals. This is something that everyone should do, however, there are two special considerations that African-Americans must keep in mind.

First, they must recognize that their credentials frequently must be superior to others for them to achieve the same goals.

For example, if you are an African American and you know that you want to eventually start your own business, you probably want to embark on a career that will provide you with stellar credentials to get venture capital and/or bank financing once you are out on your own, because you're going to have a tougher time with this than if you're white.

Unfortunately, many blacks are reluctant to loan money to black businesses. Consequently, black business owners frequently need more impressive business credentials than their white counterparts. If your long-term goal is to own your own business, think about what company and career will help you get the stellar business credentials.

Decide whether you can work in an environment where you will have little interaction with other minorities.

This decision could potentially steer you away from one industry and toward another. In 1995, I founded the National Association of Black Management Consultants Inc. because I discovered that there are few black consultants and less than 30 black partners in the top 25 management consulting firms.

The management consulting profession will enable you to advance more quickly through your business career than most other professions. However, if you have difficulty as the only minority on a project you will probably not like the management consulting industry. However, in the auto, pharmaceutical, insurance and banking industries there are many more black senior executives although, unfortunately, these numbers are still small. It might make more sense to enter one of these industries if interaction with minority senior executives is a high priority to you.

Get a feel for the corporate culture of the companies (and offices) you are considering. I think of corporate culture as the environment, values and style of a company.

If you don't feel comfortable in the company's environment, or don't share its values or style, you're going to have a difficult time reaching your career goals. There are a lot of questions before you start to find out if you'll fit in.

Ask questions like: Is the environment combative or collaborative? Will my technical strengths and weaknesses fit in here? Does the company treat minorities in a manner that I would like? What other minorities go there to reach senior levels in the company? Does the company sponsor minority professional conferences, magazines and programs? Are there senior managers that are good mentors? How hard is it to find a sponsor? Can I spend a career in this company? Does the company encourage community service? How are spouses and significant others treated by the company?

The answers you get to these questions will help you understand how the company does things and whether you'll fit in.

Your decision to join a company should be based on your long-term goals, your sensitivities to working in an environment with few minorities and your comfort with the corporate culture.

Best of luck in making one of the most important decisions of your life.

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Health Calendar

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17

JERSEY CITY — Jersey City Medical Center will offer a support group for breast cancer survivors at the American Red Cross Chapter House beginning at 6 p.m. (201) 915-2273.

NUTLEY — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive at the American Red Cross Chapter House beginning at 10 a.m. 1-800-BLOOD-NJ

THURSDAY, MARCH 18

PHILIPSBURG — Planned Parenthood of Greater Northern New Jersey Inc. will hold a conference on relationships for the new century with guest speaker Robert Silverstein, PhD at the Holiday Inn beginning at 8 a.m. (201) 489-1265.

TEANECK — Holy Name Hospital will offer a course in Tai Chi Chih at the hospital's Health Service Building beginning at 10 a.m. (201) 833-3185.

CHERRY HILL — The Delta Dental Endowment Association of New Jersey presents a seminar on dental hygiene for kids at Mt. Airy School beginning at 9:45 a.m. (609) 429-7283.

RAHWAY — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive at Masonic Lafayette Lodge beginning at 5 p.m. 1-800-BLOOD-NJ

FRIDAY, MARCH 19

PLAINFIELD — The Plainfield Senior Citizens Service Center will offer blood pressure screenings for residents beginning at 10 a.m. (908) 753-3506.

TEANECK — Holy Name Hospital will offer free blood pressure screenings at the hospital's Health Service Building beginning at 1 p.m. (201) 837-1850.

SOUTH ORANGE — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive at Baird Community Center beginning at 3 p.m. 1-800-BLOOD-NJ

SATURDAY, MARCH 20

BLOOMFIELD — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive at the Elks Lodge # 788 beginning at 10 a.m. 1-800-BLOOD-NJ

TUESDAY, MARCH 23

TEANECK — Holy Name Hospital presents a free lecture on diabetes and treatment at the Pathmark Supermarket in Bergenfield beginning at 7 p.m. (201) 833-3186.

NEW BRUNSWICK — St. Peter's University Hospital will hold a Diabetes Awareness Day summit at the hospital's conference center beginning at 10 a.m. (732) 745-8328.

NEW BRUNSWICK — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive at Rutgers University's Sigma Alpha Mu Fraternity beginning at 12 p.m. 1-800-BLOOD-NJ

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — The Center Foundation will offer a free educational program on parenting skills at the South Plainfield Center beginning at 5 p.m. (908) 769-7070.

SOUTH ORANGE — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive at Seton Hall University Activity Center beginning at 9 a.m. 1-800-BLOOD-NJ

TEANECK — Holy Name Hospital will hold a adult support group meeting for men and women grieving the loss of a loved one at the hospital's health services building beginning 10 a.m. (201) 833-3186.

THURSDAY, MARCH 25

GREENBROOK — The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive at the Greenbrook Manor Nursing Home beginning at 4 p.m. (800) 756-8414.

NEWARK — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive VFW District 4 beginning at 3:30 p.m. 1-800-BLOOD-NJ

SATURDAY, MARCH 27

TEANECK — Holy Name Hospital will offer a CPR training course for adults and infants at the hospital's Nursing School Center beginning at 8 a.m. (201) 833-3186.

MONTCLAIR — Montclair State University will offer allied health career programs beginning at 7 p.m. (973) 855-4333.

TUESDAY, MARCH 30

TEANECK — Holy Name Hospital will offer a massage therapy sessions at the hospital's Health Services Building beginning at 5 p.m. (201) 837-1850.

Minorities suffer from inequities in cancer research

WASHINGTON — The Interagency Cancer Council, the largest cancer coalition addressing the tragic disparities in incidence and mortality rates in minority and medically underserved communities, is urging a 100 percent or at least \$300 million, increase in federal funding for National Institute of Health to reverse the cancer inequities documented in the recent Institute of Medicine report, "The Unequal Burden of Cancer: A National NIH Research and Prevention Agenda for Minorities and the Medically Underserved."

"The IOM report confirmed what we've known all along — that ethnic, minority and the medically underserved have not shared equally in the nation's progress against cancer. Anything short of a 100 percent increase in funding for cancer research and mortality in these communities," said Lovell Jones, PhD, ICC co-chair and professor and Director of Experimental Gynecology and Endocrinology at the University of Texas MD. Anderson Cancer Center. The council called for increased NIH funding to implement the insti-

tute's report recommendations was deliberated and approved at its conference held this week in Washington, D.C. Attendees included more than 150 individuals representing the organizations committed to remedying the cancer crisis in underserved communities.

The conference served as a forum for the council to launch a national network of several hundred individuals ranging from cancer survivors to health professionals and scientists dedicated to securing the necessary funding increases and other policy changes required to end the current

disparities in cancer research, prevention, early detection and treatment among ethnic minorities and the medically underserved.

"Clearly, the ICC must step up our efforts if we are truly to end the war on cancer for people. Through the ICC National Network, we plan to push for positive policy developments and hold policy makers at all levels of government accountable to all of their constituencies," emphasized Susan Shinagawa, the newly elected co-chair of the council and a cancer survivor. "The sad truth is that if there were equitable application of current

knowledge about cancer prevention, control and treatment — as well as continued advances in research — we would reduce cancer incidence by at least 25 percent and cancer mortality by 50 percent among ethnic minority and medically underserved populations. The ICC National Network intends to make this a reality," pledged ICC member John Arraivada.

"To be victorious against the hideous diseases of cancer, the war must be fought and won across federal department and agency lines," said Susan Shinagawa.

Science Park makes great strides

NEWARK — Jeanette F. Brummell, a successful banking industry executive with more than 20 years of experience in financial estate development and community planning, has been named the new executive director of University Heights Science Park in Newark. The University Heights Science Park Board of Trustees also announced its first \$1 million corporate grant from The Prudential Foundation.

As executive director, Brummell is responsible for managing a collaborative venture of Newark's institutions of higher education, the City of Newark, community groups and private industry to develop a science and technology park that will promote urban and regional economic and community development.

Brummell comes to Science Park with two decades of experience at Chase Manhattan Bank. She joined the bank in 1977 and was appointed managing director in the government and finance group in 1994. During her tenure at Chase, she was responsible for arranging financing for a wide range of commercial and residential developments. As head of residential mortgage banking finance, she also developed and managed a loan portfolio of more than \$2 billion.



Jeanette F. Brummell

Dr. Stanley S. Bergen, Jr., chairman of the board and founding president of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey said, "We are fortunate to have someone with the education, skills and experience of Ms. Brummell as our new executive director. She brings an extensive background in banking, real estate development, urban planning and community relations."

"With Ms. Brummell's leadership and the generous support of The Prudential Foundation, we are poised to accelerate our growth as a major center for successful urban and regional development."

Brummell said, "I am thrilled to be a part of this important economic and community development initiative in New Ark. This mixed-use development represents the best example of the kinds of public, private and academic alliances required to enhance the economic development of cities."



Gabriella Morris, president of The Prudential Foundation, said, "An integral part of successful urban redevelopment is making sure that programs help residents and community members in a holistic sense. University Heights Science Park will allow residents of Newark and members of the academic, professional and business communities to tap into the resources that an integrated project like this offers."

Brummell has been involved in community planning, project development and financial resource development since 1970, when she became assistant planning director for the City of Newark. At that position, she wrote grants for community projects and coordinated the completion of a land use inventory for the entire city.

Increasing cancer awareness among African-American women

NEWARK — January is National Cervical Cancer Awareness Month. MHS Health Plan, in conjunction with the New Jersey Department of Health, presented "Helping Mother Lucas See The Light," an interactive play about an African-American woman who doesn't feel she's at risk for cervical cancer.

The play, performed by the Improv Institute of Philadelphia, helped raised awareness of cervical cancer amongst MHS members and women in medically underserved communities.

Participants gathered information, some were screened and some toured the MHS Mobile Health Van. Consulting with guest Martha Jones (seated left) of Newark are Lameria Daniels, Vice President and General Manager, MHS and Dr. Phillip Bonaparte, Medical Director for MHS.



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Prostate cancer: Early detection is every brother's best friend

By Marilyn Johnson Kundwani

(NNPA) — While the exact cause of prostate cancer is not known, many risk factors such as a man's age, race, and family history play a major role in determining whether he will develop the disease.

However, there is good news for men living with prostate cancer. Numerous research studies and clinical trials have been conducted nationally and internationally to investigate the cause, treatment and prevention of not only prostate cancer, but lung and colon/rectal cancers as well.

"We don't have enough information about the benefits of preventative screening for prostate cancer among men of African heritage," explained Dr. Clarence Bunker, assistant professor at the University of Pittsburgh's School of Public Health and principal investigator on a collaborative study between the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute and the Tobago Health Care System.

Bunker, along with Dr. Lewis Kuller, chairman of The University of Pittsburgh's Department of Epidemiology, and Dr. Allen Paller, consulting physician for the Tobago Health Care System, recently began a collaborative study when health care officials in Tobago expressed concern over a high incidence of elevated Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) level found in men on the island. Following the digital rectal examination of the prostate gland, the PSA test is one of the most accurate screening tests to indicate the presence of prostate cancer.

The goal of the research is to study 3,000 black men over a period of at least 10 years to determine if

early screening results in an increased life span and improved quality of life. "The study provides important information that will help us to learn why prostate cancer has become so prevalent in men of African descent and how we can help save lives," Bunker said.

Here, Bunker is a professor at the University of Michigan, researcher Dr. David Schottenfeld has been studying the lifestyle, family history, and related information of 733 African-American men since 1995. Working with urologists in Flint, to study men who have been diagnosed with prostate cancer, the goal of Dr. Schottenfeld's research has been to distinguish who gets the disease from those who don't.

To date, results indicate that prostate cancer may be affected by a person's genetic history in both their paternal and maternal lines. The level of circulating male hormones and nutritional factors also play an important role in who will get the disease. "There appears to be a relationship between higher levels of testosterone and increased incidence of prostate cancer among African-American males," Schottenfeld stated.

"We think prostate cancer may be related to excess fat in the diet, as well as a significant relationship of active calcium and vitamin D in the tissue of the gland. Vitamin D acts like a hormone to benefit and protect the prostate gland. Adding skin milk fortified with vitamin D to the diet and taking multivitamins on a regular basis may help prevent prostate cancer," he added.

For further details, call the site in your area or visit the project website at <http://ukp.nct.nih.gov/ipco>.

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A distinguished panel of physicians, nurses and social workers from the Pediatric Nephrology and Transplant Division of Saint Barnabas Health Care System will address questions that patients and families may have regarding the option of transplantation, as well as discuss current issues, such as living donor transplantation and new immunosuppressive drugs. In addition, both former patients and donors will speak regarding their past transplant experiences.

The program is designed for those interested in pursuing transplantation or for patients who are currently waiting. It will cover:

- The benefits of kidney transplantation
- Advances in and surgical aspects of pediatric renal transplantation
- Living-related and cadaveric transplantation
- Myths and misconceptions
- Financial and emotional preparation for transplantation
- What to expect before and after surgery

The program will be held free of charge at Saint Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston. For further information or to register, please call Sandra Valderrama at (973) 322-5264.

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Artz Wednesday

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Billboard

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17

POMONA — Richard Stockton College of New Jersey presents an art exhibit of Robert Corbelli's collection of color photography at the college art gallery beginning at 11:30 a.m. (609) 655-4214.

THURSDAY, MARCH 18

NEW BRUNSWICK — The State Theater presents the award-winning play *Madame Butterfly* beginning at 8 p.m. (732) 246-7489.

OAKLYN — Puttin On The Ritz Theater presents the production of *Alce in Wonderland*. Call (609) 858-5230 for time.

SATURDAY, MARCH 20

NEW BRUNSWICK — The State Theater presents the award-winning play *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* beginning at 8 p.m. (732) 246-7489.

SUNDAY, MARCH 21

NEW BRUNSWICK — Malika's Ethiopian Restaurant presents a fashion show featuring the works of fashion designer Meseret beginning at 5:30 p.m. (732) 748-1914.

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJ-PAC) presents the award-winning play *Madame Butterfly* beginning at 3 p.m. (988) GO-NJPAC.

MONDAY, MARCH 22

NEW YORK — Shomburg Center for Research in Black Culture presents jazz vocalist Vanessa Rubin beginning at 7 p.m. (212) 491-2206.

TUESDAY, MARCH 23

NEW YORK — Levee and Coca-Cola presents Lurelyn Hill with special guest Outkast at Madison Square Garden beginning at 8 p.m. (212) 465-MSG1.

THURSDAY, MARCH 25

MONTCLAIR — Montclair State University presents its annual festival of dance and music called *Danceworks* at the Memorial Auditorium beginning at 8 p.m. (973) 855-4333.

Women's Heritage Month is happening—with jazzy style—at the Schomburg Center



With the Spelman Jazz Ensemble: Back Row (l-r) Joe Jennings, Shanda Bailey, Jeanette Mallory, Ereal Rivers, Kinya Swanson, Kyra Mitchell, Dawn Counts and Nia Ray. Middle row Krystal Ancar, Sahita Brown, Rugayah Perkins, Shahawn Kenny, Tina Hearron, Tia Fuller, Lorenzo Sanford. Front Row Cherisse Stevenson and Alyson Jones. The ensemble performs during Women's History Month in Harlem.

NEW YORK — The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture will bring a variety of performers to Harlem from the vanguard of the jazz world's new generation during Women's History Month. Violinist Regina Carter's influences have ranged from R&B to East Indian to Classical music. Her early association as a member of the Detroit Civic Symphony Orchestra and the pop, funk group Brainstorm, provided the experience to record with groups ranging from Mary J. Blige to the highly acclaimed String Trio of New York. She shares the bill this month, with Lenora Zenzai Helm.

Helm has worked with artists such as Cissy Houston, Michael Franks, Freddie Jackson, Cyrus Chestnut, and Illinois Jacquet. Amid this activity she has also managed to record the 1995 CD *Absence of Pain* with her acclaimed jazz/R&B vocal

quartet Sepia and her first solo album, *Awakenings* in 1997. A former 3-year-old prodigy who grew up with gospel and the urban blues of Chicago, Emme Kemp recorded with the anytime piano legend, Eubie Blake. She was featured as a composer and actress in Broadway's hit musical *Bubbling Brown Sugar*. Her new jazz album is titled "Swingin' Free".

Respect for Vanessa Rubin's work has grown with every new record she releases and the musicians she surrounds herself with are the finest. Her reputation has many of today's best instrumentalists lining up to work with her. Ms. Rubin has performed with Kevin Eubanks, Bob Hurst and Smitty Smith, Toots Thielemans and Steve Lacy.

She shares the bill on March 22 with the Spelman College Jazz Ensemble. The Ensemble has thrilled and excited audiences far from their college town of Atlanta, Ga., with

their innovative, creative, and soulful sounds. Under the direction of jazz artist Joseph W. Jennings, the Ensemble has toured throughout the United States and performed with numerous musical greats, including Wynton Marsalis, Max Roach and Nancy Wilson.

Singer-songwriter Carmen Lundy has been critically acclaimed by *The New York Times*, *The Village Voice*, *The Los Angeles Times* and the *Washington Post*. She has worked with artists such as Walter Bishop, Jr., Kenny Barron, Ray Barreto and Don Pullen. Her own compositions have been recorded by many artists. She appears on the bill for March 29 with vocalist Tuluva Donna Cumberbatch.

Cumberbatch has performed extensively in New York, the Caribbean, Europe, and Canada. She has toured and performed with Hannibal Peterson, The Brooklyn Philharmonic, cellist Dierdre Murray, and

the world renowned Kronos Quartet. Rubin has performed with Kevin Eubanks, Bob Hurst and Smitty.

All shows are on Monday nights at 7 p.m. Tickets for individual concert dates are \$15 (\$12 for members).

Tickets for the whole series are \$38 for members, \$48 for non-members. Special discounts are available for groups of 10 or more. For ticket charge: (212) 491-2206. Monday through Saturday from noon to 6 p.m.



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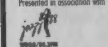
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APR 16-18

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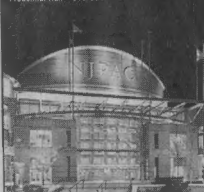
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ANDY BEY QUARTET
presented in association
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A MANDINGO OPERA
Victoria Theater • \$30

MAY 8-9

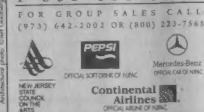
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Classified/Legals

LEGAL NOTICE

Fax legals to:
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24 hours a day

New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Youth and Family Services - Notice of Availability of Grant Funds for FOSTER HOME EVALUATIONS

Take Notice that the Division of Youth and Family Services is requesting proposals from community based agencies, individuals or other entities for Foster Home Evaluations. These services are to be provided in New Jersey, in the Division's four Regions. Notice of this is being published on or about March 15, 1999, in the *New Jersey Business*. Copies of the request for proposal may be obtained by contacting:

Kathy Wersell: (908) 984-2345 (Fax: 609-984-0027)

or
Richard J. Irtana: (609) 292-0835 or via e-mail request: cgans@njdhs.state.nj.us

or they may be obtained by attending the bidders' conference on March 23, 1999 at 10:00 AM at:

DYFS Central Adoption Resource Center
3131 Princeton Pike
Building 6, Suite 202
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648
(908) 216-6565

It is a prerequisite and a requirement that prospective applicants attend the Bidders' Conference. Failure to attend the Bidders' Conference will disqualify prospective applicants from the application process. Prospective applicants are asked to confirm their attendance at least five days before the Bidders' Conference by calling:

Kathy Wersell: (908) 984-2345 Fax: (609) 984-0027

or
Richard J. Irtana: (609) 292-0835 or via e-mail: cgans@njdhs.state.nj.us

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

Date of Notice: March 12, 1999

The Housing Authority of the City of New Brunswick, NJ will hold its Regular Board Meeting at 8:45 PM on Wednesday, March 24, 1999 in the Community Room, 18 Van Dyke Avenue, New Brunswick, New Jersey

AGENDA

Board of Commissioners Meeting
(March 24, 1999)

1. Call To Order (Chairperson)
2. Reading of Public Notice
3. Roll Call (Recording Secretary)
2. Approval of Minutes of the Agency Meeting of February 24, 1999
1999 final form

OTHER ACTIONS

- a. Second Reading of Public Notice
- b. Chief of Staff
- c. Finance
- d. Housing
- e. Maintenance
- f. Union Initiatives Social Services Coordinator
- g. Resident Council
- h. Security
- i. Social Services Program/Copies
- j. Legal

Information Items

- a. Correspondence
- b. Legal matters

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Resolutions
- b. Note Pad

\$89.85

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL CONFIRMATORY LBP TESTING (Laboratory Chemical Analysis)

The Atsury Park Housing Authority is requesting proposals from licensed and qualified firms for Confirmatory Lead Based Paint sampling with required Laboratory chemical analysis by certified laboratory. Proposals will be accepted until 12 Noon on April 12, 1999.

If you are interested in providing these services please apply during business hours for a copy of the Request for Proposal (RFP) at:

Atsury Park Housing Authority
1000 1/2 Third Avenue
Atsury Park, New Jersey 07712
908-774-2882 ext. 949

The Atsury Park Housing Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals.

We encourage minority business and firms to apply.

\$40.82

RESOLUTION 347-99 Date: 3/11/99

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEDOMERS

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Chosen Freedomers of the County of Union that it hereby adopted Resolution No. 10-99 on January 10, 1999, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is hereby decided to amend Resolution No. 10-99 to revise the schedule of regular meetings in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10A-18; and

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Chosen Freedomers of the County of Union that hereafter the starting time for the Agenda Meetings of the Board shall be changed from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. effective upon passage of this resolution;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of said amended schedule of meetings be posted by the Clerk of the Board in the place or places usually reserved for such public notices, mailed by the Clerk of the Board to the newspapers officially designated to receive such notices by the Board and filed by the Clerk of this Board with the Office of the County Clerk of Union County, all of the above to be accomplished within seven (7) days of the date of this Resolution in compliance with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 10A-18.

\$80.00

ACCREDITATION SURVEY OF UMDNJ-UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) will conduct an accreditation survey of UMDNJ-University Hospital on April 6-8, 1999. The purpose of the survey will be to evaluate the organization's compliance with nationally established Joint Commission standards, which deal with quality of care issues and the safety of the environment. Anyone believing that he/she has pertinent information about such matters may request a public information interview with the JCAHO representatives at the time of this survey.

For information on how to request an interview, you may visit University Hospital's website at: www.umdj.edu/umhosp or call (973) 972-6273.

\$39.29

PUBLIC HEARING 1999 COMPREHENSIVE GRANT PROGRAM

The Housing Authority of the Township of Woodbridge will hold a public hearing to present its proposed 1999 Comprehensive Grant Program application on Wednesday, April 7, 1999 at 8:00 PM at the Charles Minor Community Center, 18 Buena Lane, Woodbridge, NJ. Comprehensive Grant Funding is used to assist the Authority's public housing stock and ensure its viability for future use.

Peter J. Ansara
Executive Director

\$28.91

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL CONFIRMATORY LBP TESTING (Laboratory Chemical Analysis)

The Atsury Park Housing Authority is requesting proposals from licensed and qualified firms for Confirmatory Lead Based Paint sampling with required Laboratory chemical analysis by certified laboratory. Proposals will be accepted until 12 Noon on April 12, 1999.

If you are interested in providing these services please apply during business hours for a copy of the Request for Proposal (RFP) at:

Atsury Park Housing Authority
1000 1/2 Third Avenue
Atsury Park, New Jersey 07712
908-774-2882 ext. 949

The Atsury Park Housing Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals.

We encourage minority business and firms to apply.

\$47.58

LEGAL NOTICE

The public is notified that on April 7, 1999 at 7 PM in the Plainfield Municipal Court, 325 Watchung Avenue, Plainfield, NJ a public hearing will be held to consider the application of Edward Anderson, The address of the property in question is 1465 Brentwood Terrace, Plainfield, New Jersey.

The property is located within 200 feet of the property owned by you and involves a request by the applicant to construct an addition to an existing one family dwelling. The addition consists of a sunroom and a deck to the rear of the dwelling. Property is located in the R. 2 zone. Applicant request relief from zoning ordinance requirements to permit a 31 foot rear yard where a 50 foot rear yard is required.

Any person affected by this application will have an opportunity to present any comments you may have to proceed development during the hearing. All documents relating to this application may be inspected by the public between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. in City Hall, Planning Division, second floor, 515 Watchung Avenue, Plainfield, NJ.

Respectfully Submitted,
John P. Sorrows, Esq.
Attorney for Applicant Edward Anderson
7 Midland Avenue
Glen Ridge, NJ 07028
973-748-8173

\$89.74

INVITATION FOR BIDS HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK

FOR ANNUAL CONTRACTS FOR SUPPLY MATERIALS

The Housing Authority of the City of Newark (NHA) will receive sealed bids for the following materials:

ON TUESDAY, MARCH 30, 1999 AT 10:00 A.M.
99-913551 EXTERMINATING SUPPLIES

All bid packages shall clearly indicate the specific applicable bid number and will be addressed and received on the above dates by the Contracts Division, Housing Authority of the City of Newark, 57 Sussex Avenue, Newark, New Jersey 07103 at which time and place the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

See Specifications for the above are available for pick up at the Contracts Division of the NHA at the said address. Telephone: (973) 490-2256.

Sealed Bids and Performance Bonds are not required for these bids. Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975 c. 127 Affirmative Action Program.

The NHA reserves the right to reject any or all bids in the event that less than two (2) bids are received at the designated time of bid opening. The NHA reserves the right to reject any partial bids, and to award at or a portion of the award to one or more responsible bidders.

No bid shall be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days subsequent to the opening of the bids without the consent of the NHA.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK

ZINNBERG SMITH
INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

\$43.69

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HOUSING APPLICATIONS

THE SECOND WESTFIELD SENIOR CITIZENS HOUSING CORPORATION

The Second Westfield Senior Citizens Housing is currently accepting waiting list applications. Our 1 bed-room apartments are funded through Low Income Housing Tax Credits and as such are subject to the following eligibility requirements:

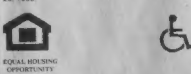
- All applicants must be 62 years of age or older
- Applicant's maximum annual income:
\$28,500 - Individual
\$32,580 - Couple

Waiting list applications will be available weekdays at the Second Westfield Senior Citizens Housing from March 15, 1999 through March 26, 1999, (10 AM - 4 PM).

Completed Applications should be mailed to:

The Second Westfield Senior Citizens
Housing Corporation
1120 Boynton Avenue,
Westfield, New Jersey 07090
(908) 751-5686

Applications must be postmarked no later than March 26, 1999.



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INTERNS

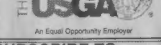
Ful-time students with a 2.5+ GPA and excellent communications skills who are interested in developing work experience send your resume to: City News, Attn: Jan Johnson, P.O. Box 191, Plainfield, NJ 07061 or fax your resume to 908-753-1036. You will have the opportunity to learn hands-on experience in Microsoft Word, Adobe Photoshop, Act 3.0, QuarkXPress, scanning, faxing, scanning, filing, sorting, making phone calls. Some internships are paid.

LIBRARIAN

The United States Golf Association, the national governing body of golf is currently seeking a Librarian who will be responsible for managing the day to day operations of the USGA Library. Other duties will include the supervision of daily activities of the Library and developing and handling. Previous experience working with adults with developmental disabilities is a plus.

Local candidates must have a M.S. degree from an accredited Masters program or equivalent and at least three to five years experience managing a membership-driven organization. Successful candidates must have in-depth knowledge of library computer data-base systems, PRADAC, personnel and interpersonal skills along with managerial and supervisory experience in a staff position. Experience running a one person library and knowledge of golf history is helpful.

You offer competitive salary, generous company paid benefits, and pleasant working environment. Interested candidates should forward their resumes to: THE UNITED STATES GOLF ASSOCIATION, ATTN: Personnel Department, P.O. Box 706, Fort Mill, SC 29504-0706. Fax: 803-781-7726. No phone calls please.



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For more information contact Yomi Akinode, Program Manager,
1095 Morris Avenue, Union, NJ 07083, 908-629-3435.

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